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ACTION ACDA-10

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: JULY 10 PLENARY SESSION

- 1. AT THE JULY 10 PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, THE GREEK REP (SPYRIDAKIS) DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. HE REVIEWED THE WESTERN POSITION ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND ATTEMPTS, TO DATE UNAVAILING, TO ENGAGE THE EAST IN A DIALOGUE ON THESE ISSUES. MAIN POINTS OF HIS PRESENTATION FOLLOW BELOW.
- 2. THE JUNE 1973 COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS INCLUDED ASSOCIATED MEASURES IN THE DESCRIPTION OF THE AGREED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. CONFIDENTIAL

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SUCH MEASURES ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT A REDUCTIONS

AGREEMENT WILL LEAVE THE SECURITY OF ALL PARTIES UNDIMINISHED. SPYRIDAKIS IDENTIFIED EIGHT PREVIOUS WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENTS ELABORATING THE ALLIED POSITION IN THIS REGARD AND NOTED THAT EACH HAD EXTENDED AN INVITATION FOR EASTERN COMMENT. TO THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE WEST, THE EAST HAD NOT RESPONDED. NOR HAD THE EAST SO FAR PUT FORWARD ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS OF ITS OWN ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES.

- 3. THE MORE THAN TWENTY MONTHS OF EASTERN RETICENCE WAS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND GIVEN THE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL NATURE OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES. THE GREEK REP RECAPITULATED THE UNANSWERED WESTERN PROPOSALS BEGINNING WITH THE SIX SPECIFIC STABILIZING MEASURES "TO REGULATE THE LEVELS AND THE ACTIVITIES OF US AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS" FOLLOWING A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT. THEIR IMPLEMENTATION WOULD BE REQUIRED TO REDUCE THE RISK THAT ONE SIDE MIGHT MISINTERPRET THE INTENTIONS OF THE OTHER IN CONDUCTING MILITARY MOVEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH NORMAL FORCE REPLACEMENT, ROTATION AND EXERCISES.
- 4. SPYRIDAKIS CITED THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY THE WEST TO PROVISIONS FOR ADEQUATE VERIFICATION AND TO MEASURES "ENSURING THAT REDUCTIONS AGREEMENTS ARE NOT CIRCUMVENTED OR UNDERMINED." IN ADDITION TO NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS, THE FORMER SHOULD INCLUDE "MEASURES PROVIDING FOR NEGOTIATED INSPECTION BY OBSERVERS" AND PRECLUDE INTERFERENCE WITH VERIFICATION BY EITHER MEANS. THE GREEK REP CONCLUDED WITH AN APPEAL TO EASTERN PARTICIPANTS TO GIVE THEIR REACTIONS AND IDEAS CONCERNING ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND TO "ENTER INTO A CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION" OF THIS SUBJECT "EARLY IN THE NEXT ROUND."
- 5. THE FULL TEXT OF THE GREEK STATEMENT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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